

## Message Text

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41

ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

DRAFTED BY S:WEGAN:LSEAGLEBURGER:ML

APPROVED BY S - MR. EAGLEBURGER

S/S - MR. ORTIZ

DESIRED DISTRIBUTION

LSE, EUR, C AND M/DG ONLY

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 056857

NODIS

CHEROKEE FOR THE AMBASSADOR FROM EAGLEBURGER

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: ASEC, US, UR, APER

SUBJECT: MOSCOW SIGNAL: EMPLOYEE REACTIONS

REFERENCES: A) MOSCOW 3483; B) STATE 51556

1. AS NOTED PARA 2 REF B WE HAVE TERMINATED OFF-LINE ENCRYPTION OF MESSAGES ON THE MOSCOW SIGNAL. REF A, HOWEVER, ARRIVED OFF-LINE ENCRYPTED. RECOMMEND YOU DROP THE SPECIAL OC SLUG USED IN THE PAST AND MAKE ALL SUCH MESSAGES STRAIGHT NODIS/CHEROKEE FOR EAGLEBURGER FROM THE AMBASSADOR. I HAVE TAKEN STEPS HERE TO INSURE PROPER DISTRIBUTION.

2. WHILE EMPLOYEE REACTION APPEARS GENERALLY ENCOURAGING, I AM FRANKLY APPALLED BY THE REACTIONS OF WHAT I ASSUME IS A FEW IN MOSCOW, AND SOME OF THEIR COLLEAGUES IN WASHINGTON. YOUR STAFF HAS BEEN BRIEFED IN DETAIL ON AN ISSUE OF EXTREME SENSITIVITY. MOST, IT APPEARS, HAVE RISEN TO THE  
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CHALLENGE. HOWEVER, IT IS CLEAR FROM REPORTS IN THE PRESS

THAT SOME ARE INCAPABLE OF MANAGING SUCH A CONFIDENCE (AND THAT IS NOT TO SAY THAT WE HAVEN'T DONE OUR SHARE -- AND MORE -- OF LEAKING HERE AS WELL). THIS MAY BE THE PRICE WE ARE DESTINED TO PAY FOR DEALING AS HONESTLY AND FORTHRIGHTLY AS WE KNEW HOW -- EVEN IF THE TACTICS, IN RETROSPECT, MIGHT HAVE BEEN MORE EXPERTLY HANDLED FROM HERE. NEVERTHELESS, I MUST SAY THAT I FIND THE ACTIONS OF A FEW AS LESS THAN I WOULD HAVE EXPECTED OF OUR FOREIGN SERVICE, AND IN THE END HARMFUL TO THE PROFESSIONAL REPUTATION WE ALL VALUE. THEIR BEHAVIOR IS ALL THE MORE DISTURBING GIVEN THE FACT THAT THE PROBLEM WITH WHICH WE HAVE ALL BEEN WRESTLING IS BOTH A HUMAN PROBLEM AND A MAJOR FOREIGN POLICY ISSUE. OUR ULTIMATE OBJECTIVE MUST CLEARLY BE TO GET THE SIGNAL TURNED OFF. OUR WHOLE EFFORT HAS BEEN POINTED IN THAT DIRECTION, AND OUR DECISIONS ON TACTICS GOVERNED BY THAT CONSIDERATION.

3. THIS IS, WALT, IN NO WAY MEANT AS CRITICISM OF THE EMBASSY AS A WHOLE. YOU HAVE BEEN SUPERB, AND WILL HAVE MY UNDYING ADMIRATION. I ONLY WISH SOME OF YOUR MINIONS WERE AS COURAGEOUS, BUT I SUPPOSE THAT IS TOO MUCH TO EXPECT. IN ANY EVENT, I HAVE NO OBJECTION WHATSOEVER SHOULD YOU FIND IT APPROPRIATE TO CONVEY THE SUBSTANCE OF THESE THOUGHTS TO YOUR STAFF, AND ESPECIALLY THOSE WHO HAVE MOST EGREGIOUSLY VIOLATED THE TRUST AND CONFIDENCE PLACED IN THEM.

4. WARM REGARDS. KISSINGER

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**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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